

Message Text

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ACTION CU-03

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R 191130Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1777

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PERSONAL FOR ASSY SECY RICHARDSON FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, PFOR

SUBJ: IMPLEMENTATION OF SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR PORTUGAL

REF: STATE 29984

1. I FIND MYSELF SOMEWHAT FRUSTRATED BY OUR INABILITY TO NAIL DOWN CONCRETE PROJECTS IN A NUMBER OF AREAS. IT IS LITTLE CONSOLATION THAT MY COLLEAGUES FROM OTHER NATO COUNTRIES OFFERING AID ENCOUNTER THE SAME LACK OF RESPONSE.

2. THE GOP IS VERY MUCH PREOCCUPIED WITH FUNDAMENTAL POLITICAL QUESTIONS, AND THEY WOULD PREFER TO LOOK AT OUR AID PACKAGE IN ITS ENTIRETY. THE OTHER DAY THE PRIME MINISTER ASKED ME WHETHER THE AZORES AGREEMENT MONEY COULD BE USED FOR PURPOSES OTHER THAN STUDY VISITS AND TRAINING. HIS QUESTION WAS IN THE CONTEXT OF A SERIES OF QUERIES ON OVERALL AID PROGRAM, BUT IT DOES INDICATE THAT MINED PROPOSAL HAS MOVED HIGHER THAN TECHNICAL LEVEL. WE KNOW FOR A FACT THAT MINED PROPOSAL HAS REACHED SECRETARY OF STATE FOR PLANNING.

3. WE HAVE TAKEN THE POSTURE THAT WE WISH TO BE RESPONSIVE TO GOP'S PRIORITIES. WHILE LISBON 5458 REPORTED COSTA GOMES GENERAL AGREEMENT TO AID PACKAGE I AM CERTAIN HE DID NOT FOCUS ON SPECIFICS. WE ARE PRESENTLY DOING THIS THROUGH FONOFF, MINISTER OF FINANCE AND SECRETARY OF STATE FOR PLANNING. I HAVE STRESSED TO ALL CONCERNED, INCLUDING PRESIDENT AND PRIME

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MINISTER, NEED FOR GETTING CONCRETE ACTIONS UNDERWAY AS

RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE.

4. I AM SURE YOU WILL AGREE WITH ME THAT IN THIS ENVIRONMENT IT WOULD BE A MISTAKE TO MAKE UNILATERAL DECISIONS ON PARTS OF THE AID PROGRAM (SEE LISBON 903 FOR MY VIEWS ON THIS AS IT RELATES TO ANOTHER PART OF THE AID PROGRAM.)

5. WE WILL TAKE SUBJECT UP AGAIN AT EARLY OPPORTUNITY WITH SECRETARY OF STATE FOR PLANNING. HOPEFULLY MATTERS WILL BEGIN TO CLARIFY AS POLITICAL DECISIONS ARE MADE AND GOP CAN BEGIN TO TURN ITS ATTENTION TO ECONOMIC MATTERS.
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